

FROM: Mary Wilson, Protect Our Pollinators

RE: Bill SB 104, An Act Prohibiting the Use of Residential Automatic Pesticide Misting Systems

We fully support SB 104 which prohibits the use of residential automatic pesticide misting systems. These devices provide yet another method for the unregulated spread of toxic chemicals.

Mosquito misting systems are timed-release outdoor residential misting systems that disperse chemicals into one's yard and potentially the neighbor's yard, putting other people, pets, wildlife and pollinators at risk.

These devices automatically spray the pesticide of one's choice on a continual basis. They are sometimes installed on yard perimeters or on fences where they will spray toxic pesticides every few minutes and at a height where children, pets and even unsuspecting adults could be sprayed.

Additionally, since it is likely that broad-spectrum pesticides will be used in these devices, many non-target and beneficial insects will be at risk. Bees and other pollinators already face a myriad of chemicals in their everyday habitats. And we know that many pesticides have a synergistic effect when combined with other pesticides and with other stressors that pollinators face.

Mosquito misters are not subject to any federal regulations because EPA does not regulate such equipment. These devices are considered "application equipment" and therefore are not regulated.

New York State is the only state in New England that has regulated the use of these devices. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has agreed that these devices should be regulated before people and/or animals are seriously hurt.

Please support this important bill which will prohibit these devices and will help to reduce the load of toxic chemicals already having negative effects on our environment. Thank you.

Mary Wilson

Protect Our Pollinators

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